

Weed Board Meeting Minutes

February 3, 2021

1:00 PM

Zoom

Members Present

Rob McDonough – Chair

Judith Anne Vincent

Joel Redding

Mike Cobb

Dave Burch

Jim McCormick – L&C County Commissioner

Staff Present

Christian Lehnert – L&C County Weed Coordinator

Eric Griffin – Public Works Director

Hallie Kellerman – Admin Assistant II

Guests Present

Mat Walter – County Extension Agent; MSU Extension

Call to Order:

Chairman Rob McDonough called the meeting to order at 1:09 PM

Roll Call

Introductions

Mat Walter, MSU Extension Agent

Approval of Agenda

Board Member Judith Anne Vincent moved to accept; member Mike Cobb seconded; all in favor

Approval of Minutes

Board member Mike Cobb moved to accept; member Judith Anne seconded; all in favor

Budget

Board Member Judith Anne moved to accept; member Dave Burch seconded; all in favor

Public Comment - None

Action Items

- Bylaw Creation / Discussion
 - Identify 3 members to form a committee
 - Judith Anne, Rob McDonough, and Dave Burch volunteered to be on the bylaw creation committee
 - With direction and guidance from Commissioner McCormick, committee members decided to meet in person while staying distanced from one another.

Staff Reports:

Christian Lehnert – Weed Coordinator: Working with Audra Zacherl on budget for FY22. Also working with GIS department to create a weed road map for seasonal spray crews. Attended MWCA 2021 Weed Conference. Christian confirmed Dave Burch is a board member.

Eric Griffin – Director of Public Works: Public works is still trying to recruit a Lincoln Board member; an article was published in the paper to help. Budget process is still going strong. PW Department is ready

for winter, purchased new motor graders and some new V-plows called “bat wings” to try out this year. We have been able to complete Elk Creek Bridge 5 and 6 since last meeting in October. Huge success for department. Working on getting contractor for Elk Creek 7 Bridge. PW has been hiring many positions in last few months and have been busy with that process.

Jim McCormick – L&C County Commissioner: There will be vaccine mobile clinic in Lincoln and Augusta on February 5th for individuals 70+.

Discussion:

Mat Walter – County Extension Agent: Introduction to board and overview of job duties and work history. Fielding Ag and horticulture questions currently from public. Typically does 2-3 presentations a week from Jan-April for pesticide trainings. Conducting mostly web series. Building a producer mailing list. Worked with MSU for about 16 years. Started with crop research. Pesticides is more of his niche.

Chairman Rob McDonough: would like to see all board members names listed back on agenda for reports. Makes board members more engaged.

Dave Burch: There are a few bills going through the legislature that will affect the weed world. HB93 to create certified weed free products, specifically for gravel. HB42 is to take true aquatic weeds off the noxious weed list and let FWP manage aquatic invasive species. County weed coordinators do not have the capacity or budget to manage these as well as grass-based weeds. This bill has been tabled.

Judith Anne: presented 2020 area report. Sprayer BJ2 was utilized by 7 landowners, Forest Service, BLM, and on county roads. Used 57 days, 7,050 gallons sprayed, 4,500 gallons in private tank. 76 150-gallon tanks, 229 acres, 1,324 hours and \$10,184. She also completed 90 weed packets to distribute to landowners. She also has some education and information ideas for 2021. Judith Anne asked about compensation for the packets she created. Christian stated he would work on figuring out how compensation for this would work.

Mike Cobb: There is a new staff member in NRCS. Hoping they can help write a grant to secure weed sprayers for his area. Personal responsibilities overlap weed season and make it difficult to effectively manage weeds in area.

Items for Next Meeting:

Next Weed Board Meeting: March 3, 2021 in weed shop, 3402 Cooney Drive.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was presented by Joel Redding. Meeting adjourned at 2:13PM.